



**B. Old Hotel Site Status.** Fifth Third Bank representatives from Southfield met with city staff and were provided with the comments from the City Council and DDA members. They were not informed of the issues on the lot when they made their initial offer and site plan and asked for the opportunity to resubmit a proposal. A response is expected in November.

**C. Entertainment District Developments.** The Museum to Museum river walkway upgrades will be discussed in the first meeting of the advisory committee in November. The advisory committee has added a natural plantings advisor. Hathaway also talked about the "Power of Place" and the creative spark required in today's advancing communities. We need more promotions downtown to restore the social value of downtown. What attracts people the most is other people.

**D. Kiosk Removal.** A motion to remove the kiosk from N. Washington Street and preserve it for placement elsewhere in the downtown was adopted.

Lazar/Gilbert m/s/p

**E. Landscaping at Welcome Sign.** A budget not to exceed \$1,500 was approved for landscaping about the new Welcome Sign on South Washington Street. Members signed a thank you note to Bill Voorheis for donating the land for the sign.

Bucsi/Collins m/s/p

#### **F. Reports.**

**1) Retail Recruitment/Retention.** George Ramos reported that he has two retail prospects for vacant sites in the downtown and could not release their names or products at this time.

**2) Loop Trail Status.** The clearing and grubbing is complete. The engineering is 80% complete and awaits an MDOT grade inspection. Upon successful completion of the inspection a construction contract with the State may be executed and the trail construction may begin. For now contaminated soil removal is the goal in November together with bank stabilization.

**3) Armory Development.** The Department of Military Affairs projects a January appraisal of the site and a February offer to the City at appraised value. The offer does not include environmental site analysis or title insurance so the City would have 60 days for due diligence. The request for the easement behind the Armory goes to the Facilities Committee of the Department of Military Affairs with their staff recommendation to approve the City's request. The City would have to conduct the survey, easement agreement work and recordings.

**4) Focus Owosso Activity.** Bill Gilbert reported on the high satisfaction with the new events coordinator and the prospects for a great holiday promotion. At his request the DDA authorized an amendment to the DDA agreement with Focus to advance a \$3,000 contract payment in January.

Lazar/Collins m/s/p

**5. Parking Demand at the Ball/Water/Exchange Lot.** The new parking mall at the Dollar Daze store is handling the customer demand and there is no need at this time to add 2 hour spaces on the north two aisles of the Ball/Water/Exchange Lot.

**6. January Meeting.** It was decided to cancel the January 3, 2007 meeting of the DDA in favor of Board Member attendance at the annual downtown business appreciation breakfast in late January.

**7. Project Completion at Wesener Building.** The State of Michigan has closed the grant agreement upon a finding of compliance with all the terms of the contract. The project is completed and becomes a long standing asset for the downtown's large historic structures.

**Citizen/Member Comments.** Hathaway remarked that he has received a citizen complaint about all the graffiti about the downtown.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 a.m.

Director

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Philip B. Hathaway, Secretary-Treasurer and Executive